

## **Remarks**

### **Amendments to the Claims**

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 3-16 and 18-20 are pending in the application. Of the pending claims, claims 1, 11 and 15 are independent.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3-9, 11-16 and 18-19 as being anticipated by Pekar. The device of Pekar discloses an inflatable multi-layer support having vertically stacked upper and lower chamber portions. The hourglass configuration of the Pekar device is in contrast to what is required by the claims. Claims 1, 11 and 15 have been amended to include a limitation with respect to the strip extending from the first layer to the second layer such that the strip defines the sides of the first compartment. The side configuration of the device allows it to replace a traditional mattress. Each compartment of the Pekar device comprises a first layer attached to a second layer. There is nothing to suggest the addition of an additional component such as a strip extending from the first layer to the second layer in order to define sides of the first compartment. Accordingly, claims 1, 11 and 15 should be allowed.

In addition, claim 11 requires a plurality of ribs extending from the first layer to the second layer of the first compartment. There is nothing to suggest these types of ribs in use with the Pekar device. For this additional reason claim 11 should be allowed.

## Conclusion

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 11 and 15 are allowable over the prior art of record. For similar reasons, Applicant urges that the dependent claims are also allowable.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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